

Stamford School Readiness Council
Health & Wellness Committee Meeting
Monday, October 22, 2012
12:00 p.m.
United Way of Western CT
1150 Summer Street, 2nd Floor

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees

Dr. Madhu Mathur; <i>Chair, Health & Wellness Committee</i>	Director KIDS' FANS Wellness Program; Medical Director, Regional Medical Home Initiative, Southwest CT, Stamford Hospital and Chair, Obesity Task Force, Stamford
Elizabeth Anavy	Nurse Practitioner, Family Centers at William Pitt Child Development Ctr
Jody Bishop Pullan	Dental Case Manager, Health Department, City of Stamford
Karen Brennan	Stamford Discovery Coordinator, United Way of Western CT
Dr. Anne Brewer	Associate Director, Family Practice Program, Stamford Hospital
Jennienne Peoples Burke	Health Educator, Family Centers
Lucia Cook	Acting Executive Director, Literacy Volunteers Stamford/Greenwich
Kerri Hagan	Public Health Educator, Health Department, City of Stamford
Jennifer Hallissey	Vice President, Education, United Way of Western CT
Pat Malloy	Instructional Coordinator, Stamford Public Schools
Sharon McAdoo	Instructional Coordinator, Stamford Public Schools
Debby Schreiner	Instructional Coordinator, Stamford Public Schools
Ellen Swan	Early Childhood Consultation Partnership, Mid-Fairfield Child Guidance Center

Guests

Sonja Ahuja	Liaison, Graustein Memorial Fund
Leah Fischel	Clinician, Child FIRST
Ida Lupinacci	Parent Advocate, Medical Home Initiative

Dr. Madhu Mathur, the Health and Wellness Committee chair, opened the meeting by restating the importance of the work the Health and Wellness Committee is focusing on around obesity, medical home, asthma, mental health, and oral health.

Introduction to Results Based Accountability (Sonja Ahuja)

The School Readiness Council Executive Committee met prior to the Health and Wellness Committee to as part of a strategic planning process designed to refocus our efforts on the Early Childhood Blueprint, specifically around our desired strategies and outcomes, and how we might use data to inform our work. Our Graustein Memorial Fund liaison, Sonja Ahuja, led this discussion and was invited by Dr. Mathur to join our meeting.

Sonja provided a snapshot of Results-Based Accountability (RBA). RBA is an effective tool for organizing and implementing a data-driven comprehensive community planning process and is a core element used by the Connecticut legislature and required of state agencies for their planning efforts, especially around early childhood. RBA starts with the end results in mind, uses indicators to report on how well the community is doing and ensures that the community-wide strategies directly address the causes or forces that are currently contributing to poor outcomes. RBA provides a framework to measure both program and system performance.

Sonja shared the following with the group:

- Examples of **population indicators** are “all people in Connecticut,” “all children,” “all residents of Stamford,” or all “4-year olds”.
- Population indicators are not to be confused with **performance measures** which are measures within a program such as Stamford Public Schools or CLC.
- As we think about RBA, it’s important to answer the core question “why are you doing what you are doing?” The indicators we choose and the data we want to collect directly ties to this answer.
- With this in mind the choice of strategies and actions comes from the story behind the data/indicators. We must look at what the underlying causes are and what explains the data.
- Another important distinction in RBA is the difference between contribution and attribution. Contribution is what helps to impact a result. Attribution is when there is an actual cause and effect between what you do and what actually happens.
- Our choice of evidence-based models comes from (and leads one to) the child outcomes we ultimately want to achieve.

Early Childhood Blueprint Discussion (All)

The group has just a short time to discuss the Health and Wellness strategies outlined in the Early Childhood Blueprint and how we might begin to chart our progress to date. We will continue this discussion at our next meeting and look to Committee members to assist with next steps and data collection.

Next Meeting

The Health and Wellness Committee will next meet on Monday, January 10 at the United Way of Western CT, 1150 Summer Street, 2nd Floor.